

STAT

ARTICLE (IF PLACED)
ON PAGE 6.EDITOR & PUBLISHER
3 May 1980

Journalists and CIA

Members of the American Society of Newspaper Editors were aghast when Stansfield Turner, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, told them he reserves the right to enlist journalists in secret missions.

Statements like this can compromise every U.S. newsman working abroad.

Turner has a "regulation" against enlisting the aid of reporters, clergymen and academics but his recent comment expresses his willingness to waive the rule at any time. This implies the willingness of some reporters to work for CIA and thus suggests any or all of them may do so on occasion.

It is imperative that the charter legislation being considered in congress forbids the CIA to recruit journalists, clergymen and academics as well as forbidding CIA agents to pose as a journalist, etc.